

# THE RAMTOP

THE PUBLICATION OF THE GREATER CLEVELAND TIMEX-SINCLAIR USERS GROUP

SUMMER

1992

## 9600 Baud Modems:

To those of you who are actively online, it will come as no surprise that the advent of the 9600 baud standard is fast approaching. In the past several months several manufacturers have lowered the prices on their 9600 baud modems, Microcenter for example is selling the Supra modem for around 239-249. The V32.bis version is about 50 dollars more. The v32.bis extended standard offers a true 14.4k transmission rate. Don't confuse these with V.42 and v.42bis which can increase the effective transfer rate but doesn't do anything for files which are already compressed under ZIP, LHA or other file compression systems. Just in the past week I have heard of the Zoom modem and others dropping the price of their v32.bis version to the \$259 range. Of course if you haven't upgraded from your 300 or 1200 baud modem it is also a good time to pick up a 2400 baud modem as many of these are now selling new or used for under \$60.

## Dayton Computerfest:

The Dayton Computerfest (TM) will be August 29, and 30. As an example of some of the bargains that can be found there, Jon Kazor picked up a 1.4 meg drive for 20 dollars at the show last year. It is a good event to go to. If anyone wants a table in the flea market area all that is needed is 4 hours of donated time to help with their setup. For further information Bob Schwein, 8547 Cameo Lane, Huber Hts, OH 45424.. 513-667-5245

## Rumors and More:

According to ISTUG, Computer Monthly is considering eliminating the Timex Sinclair column. It might be a good idea to drop them a line and let them know how you feel about this action. Write to Computer Monthly, Box 55886, Birmingham, Alabama 35255. David G. Leech of Byte-Back Inc is having a "Make David and offer sale". Apparently you make a list of what you want and include a check for the price you want to pay (be reasonable) and he will send you your merchandise. Write to Byte-Back, Box 112, 536 Long Terrace, Leesville, SC, 29070. The above information comes from Andre Baune of Chateaugay, Quebec. He also reports of a rumored ZX-81 Emulator for the PC, available in Holland. Another rumor is about a hard drive interface made by someone in Iowa for a ZX-81 about four or five years ago. Does anybody know anything about this?

## Cheap Hardware:

Recently I recieved a catalog from Mendelson Electronics. You may have seen them at various hamfests and other events, they have a selection of rather estoteric items. In their current catalog they have a 48 key TI-99 keyboard for \$.99; replacement head for star printers, \$25; 3 1/2" 360K drive,\$10; 5 1/4" 720K drive \$39; AT 200 watt power supply, \$39 etc. Write to them for a catalog or order, at 340 East First St., Dayton, Ohio 45402, tel 513-461-3525.

## Sinclairdom's Favorite Nerd:

This month Toby has submitted his ZX-81 Lotto Program, for the Super Lotto. It should be easily modified for the 2068 or any other machine that you are using. By the way Toby has just finished his second film. Titled "Bride of the Killer Nerd" it will premier at Peabody's down under at the end of June (27th at 8 PM). Toby will try to get some tickets for us from the Radio Station that is doing the promotion.

## New Users (maybe):

Max Schoenfeld, reports that the Cuyahoga County Library is adding our user group to their data base for possible contacts, so let's be prepared for the rush of manic Sinclair users.

## Mass Storage:

PC Chronicles reports that the Magneto optical drive which holds 128 megs, will sell for 70 dollars per cartridge. Also of interest are the reports from other sources of a 21 meg, 1.3 inch hard drive. Citizen will be manufacturing these drives for Hewlett-Packard who plan to use them in their palm top computers. The introduction of this size drive will most probably revolutionize the laptop market. This drive is, by virtue of it's small size and low power consumption, supposed to be more rugged than those now being used.

## Son of C-5:

Now for some information from the UK. Amstrad has covered the market and is the dominant supplier there. Clive is very much still alive at Cambridge where he is reported riding one of his electric bicycles and driving something that people assume is a car or some similar device.... This information comes via Max's son's girlfriend who is a student at Cambridge.

## Free C Classes:

There are free C programming classes being offered, 6 sessions held Mondays at the Lorain branch of Cleveland Public Library, 8216 Lorain. Call them for further information

## Help the Needy:

Please bring some canned food to the next meeting for the Cleveland Computer Society's Christmas in July project. Our donations of food to help people outside of the holiday season will be appreciated especially in this period of GA cuts and hard times.

## Info EXPO:

The Info EXPO is going to be held the 23rd and 24th of September at the IX Center. It is reported that some of the editors or writers from the PC magazines will be there. We'll just have to see.

## Articles Needed!:

We always need articles for the RAMTOP, remember it is our newsletter and will be only as good as we make it. So EVERYONE must try to contribute articles, information, and program listings. Recently the Milwaukee user group SMUG discontinued their newsletter. As Joe Bob Briggs said "Without eternal vigilance it can happen here".

## Quanta Library:

For those of you who have QL's now might be the time to join Quanta, the UK based QL users group. The Quanta Library is now being offered for .50 per disk. from Paul Holmgren. They have updated at least seven disks. Call Paul at 1-317-291-6002.

## PAL Chips Available:

Nazir Pashtoon, who has contributed greatly to the Sinclair community in the past has announced the availability of all Timex and QL PAL chips. You may call him in the evening at 708-439-1679 (that's in the Central Time Zone)

## Sinclair Hardware and Odds and Ends (US division):

Paul Holmgren and Frank Davis have been in business together for some time, are now known as Mechanical Affinity (sounds like a TV wrestling tag team) and while they specialize in QL items they also have 2068 items and Tom Bent's improved replacement rom for the 1000 on EPROM. Write to them for a catalog at 513 East Main St, Peru, Indiana.

## Sinclair Hardware and Odds and Ends (European division):

Another source of QL items is Jurgen Falkenberg in Germany. He carries such items as a digitizer, bar code reader, oscilloscope and analog interface. Write to Juregen at Thanweg 36, D-7535 Ersingen, Germany or call him at 07231-81058. Deutschland Uber QL!



## JLO Upgrade:

John Oliger has issued a new version of JLO Safe, Version 2.6. This version adds the commands CAT/n, which is comparable to DIR /w in MSDOS; RUN /"FN" code will load 1760 bytes of machine code to location 3800h in the B bank and call it; GOSUB / is exactly the same as the previous RUN / command except it expects the code to have already been loaded; The British pound sign has been made into a wild card; Head will now be parked on track 1 rather than track 0 to avoid corruption of the directory information. The upgrade is \$10 with exchange of Eprom and listing of annotated source code \$7.95. Write John at 11601 Whidbey Dr., Cumberland, Indiana 46229.

## July Meeting:

Bob Parish will give us a demo of the Z-88 Cambridge laptop at the next eastside meeting. If anyone in our corresponding user groups know where bob can find a copy of the Z-88 disk operating system Bob would appreciate it, it seems his disk was misplaced or overwritten. Write to Bob at 12706 Leelia Ave, Cleveland, Ohio 441135

## Credits:

Information in this newsletter was contributed from Andre Baune, ISTUG, ZX-Clive Alive, Max Schoenfeld, Greg DuPuy and others.

The Ramtop is a quarterly publication of the Greater Cleveland Timex-Sinclair Users Group. Editorial submissions should be sent to:

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## Toby's Lotto Program:

```
1 REM THIS PROGRAM WAS
2 REM WRITTEN BY TOBY RADLOFF
3 REM TO GENERATE RANDOM
4 REM NUMBERS FOR SUPER LOTO.
5 CLS
6 RAND
10 PRINT "          6-47 SUPER
GOTO 11"
11 FOR A=1 TO 10 STEP 1
12 PRINT AT A,5;" ";AT A,28;" "
13 NEXT A
14 PRINT "
30 LET L=INT (RAND*48)
32 LET M=INT (RAND*48)
33 IF M=L THEN GOTO 32
34 LET N=INT (RAND*48)
35 IF N=M OR N=L THEN GOTO 34
36 LET O=INT (RAND*48)
37 IF O=N OR O=M OR O=L THEN G
OTO 36
38 LET P=INT (RAND*48)
39 IF P=O OR P=N OR P=M OR P=L
THEN GOTO 38
40 LET Q=INT (RAND*48)
41 IF Q=P OR Q=O OR Q=N OR Q=M
OR Q=L THEN GOTO 40
45 IF L=0 OR M=0 OR N=0 OR O=0
OR P=0 OR Q=0 THEN GOTO 30
50 PRINT AT 3,16;L
51 PRINT ,M
52 PRINT ,N
53 PRINT ,O
54 PRINT ,P
55 PRINT ,Q
56 PRINT
58 PRINT "          NOW MARK YOU
R CARD "
80 PRINT AT 19,0;"WOULD YOU LI
KE TO GO AGAIN?"
81 PRINT "(Y OR N) YOU MAY HA
VE TO HOLD THE KEY A FEW SECONDS
"
85 PRINT AT 13,0;"
86 PRINT AT 15,0;"
171 FOR X=25 TO 0 STEP -1
173 PRINT AT 14,X;"WINNER";AT 1
4,X;" "
174 GOSUB 300
175 NEXT X
176 GOSUB 300
177 FOR X=0 TO 25 STEP 1
178 PRINT AT 14,X;"WINNER";AT 1
4,X;" "
179 GOSUB 300
180 NEXT X
190 GOTO 90
300 IF INKEY$="Y" THEN GOTO 5
310 IF INKEY$="N" THEN GOTO 500
320 RETURN
500 CLS
501 FOR N=1 TO 100
502 LET J=(RAND*20)
503 LET H=(RAND*25)
504 PRINT AT J,H;" "
505 NEXT N
510 CLS
515 PRINT AT 10,6;"G O O D - B
Y E ,"
```

*Ramtop  
Review*

# *Kent State*

## *University Geauga Campus*

### *6th Annual Software Fair*

#### **Greg DuPuy Receives Thank You Note!!**

Dear Greg,

I would like to Personally thank you and your colleagues for volunteering your time for the Kent State University Geauga Campus 6th Annual Software Fair. Your contribution is part of what made the fair the success it was. The Sinclair table seemed to be very popular, and we hope you found it worth your while.

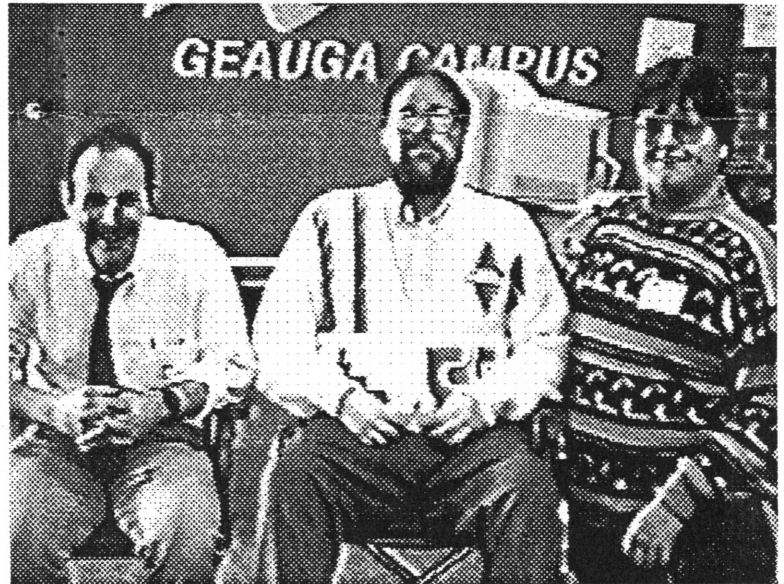
The Software Fair is a benefit not only to the Geauga campus, but also to the surrounding communities. Because you volunteered, you have served both. It is deeply appreciated by all. I look forward to working with you next year.

Thank you once again.

Sincerely

Scott Wachter  
Coordinstor, Computer Assisted Instruction

cc: Dean Jones



*Darren  
Gross*



*Mark  
Stoue*



*Scott  
Wachter*